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Boudreau, Paul E

To: Burger, David
Subject: RE: Echo Chamber - SecState Rice on Detainees

RELEASED IN FULL

From: Orlansky, Michael D
Sent: Friday, December 09, 2005 9:07 AM
To: Milovanovic, Gillian A; Wohlers, Paul; Hubler, Stephen A
Subject: FW: Echo Chamber - SecState Rice on Detainees

Yes, we received the Echo Chamber message from several different sources in Washington and no doubt you did, too.

These look like good general points, and along with the statements from the Secretary's European trip, complemented by the NATO Sec-Gen's constructive statement yesterday, will give us some helpful material to draw on in upcoming speeches and meetings.

Despite the wide play detainee issues received in the past week, there have been only a few media inquiries related this issue here, probably because the case that is now receiving attention elsewhere in Europe and in the U.S. dates back for nearly two years and was reported on previously in Macedonia. However, if the case or Macedonia's response to it becomes an issue in EU and/or NATO accession, interest could revive and we will be further pressed by media and other contacts.

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: Davidson, Terry R
Sent: Thursday, December 08, 2005 11:00 PM
To: EUR-PPD-IO-DL; EUR-PPD-PAO-DL; EUR-DCM-DL; EUR-AMBASSADORS
Cc: EUR-FO; EUR-Directors
Subject: Echo Chamber - SecState Rice on Detainees

If you didn't see the cable...

Subject: Echo Chamber

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 28 JAN 2009 200706444

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TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE RUEHTRO/USLO TRIPOLI
IMMEDIATE 5373 BT UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 STATE 221655

FOR AMBASSADORS AND PAOS FROM U/S KAREN HUGHES

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KPAO, PREL

SUBJECT: ECHO CHAMBER MESSAGE ON SECRETARY RICE'S STATEMENT ON DETAINEES

REF: STATE 219905

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1. Secretary Rice this week provided a comprehensive explanation of U.S. policy regarding detainees and renditions in the context of the global war on terror and the threats that terrorists pose to people everywhere.

Below are points that Ambassadors, country teams, and PD officers should aggressively use to refocus the public debate on this subject:

-- The United States and many other governments are engaged in a difficult struggle against a ruthless enemy, transnational terrorists.

-- All governments have a responsibility to protect their citizens from harm. The United States works cooperatively with countries around the world to achieve this objective.

-- We are working together closely with allies and partners in Europe and globally to protect our citizens against a vicious terrorist adversary.

-- The war on terrorism sometimes involves the capture, detention and questioning of terrorists. We must question them to gather potentially significant, life-saving intelligence.

-- Our law enforcement and intelligence cooperation has resulted in foiling a number of deadly plots against cities and citizens in Europe and elsewhere.

-- As Secretary Rice and CIA Director Goss have recently stated, U.S. intelligence agencies have handled the gathering of intelligence from a very small number of extremely dangerous detainees, including individuals who planned the 9/11 attacks.

-- United States policy is that this questioning is to be conducted within U.S. law and treaty obligations,

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without using torture.

-- We will not confirm or deny specific intelligence activities; we cannot discuss information that could compromise the success of intelligence, law enforcement, and military operations.

-- No one should be surprised that intelligence agencies, both in America and around the world, engage in intelligence gathering activities.

-- With respect to detainees, the United States government complies with its Constitution, its laws and its treaty obligations. The United States does not commit, authorize, or condone torture.

-- Where there have been cases of unlawful treatment of detainees, the U.S. has vigorously investigated and, where appropriate, prosecuted and punished those responsible.

-- The United States does not transport detainees from one country to another for the purpose of interrogation by torture and has not used the airspace or airports of any country for the purpose of transporting a detainee to a country where he will be tortured.

-- The United States has not transported anyone, and will not transport anyone, to a country when we believe he will be tortured. Where appropriate, the United States seeks assurances that transferred persons will not be tortured.

-- In conducting renditions, this Administration has respected and will continue to respect the sovereignty of other countries.

End Talking Points.

2. During her European trip, Secretary Rice has been asked a number of questions related to the Convention Against Torture's provisions on "cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment" and whether it applies both inside and outside the United States. If raised, posts may use the Secretary's direct quotes to respond to such questions. (Below is a relevant quote from the Secretary's press conference in Kiev on December 7.)

Secretary Rice: "~ As a matter of U.S. policy, the United

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States obligations under the CAT, which prohibits, of course, cruel and inhumane and degrading treatment, (those

obligations) extend to U.S. personnel wherever they are, whether they are in the United States or outside of the United States."

RICE

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